



# COHASSET

## Norfolk County



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## NARRATIVE

### **Narrative**

The Town of Cohasset covers a nine square mile area in a setting of colonial homes and ocean vistas of spectacular beauty. The town is about 25 miles from Boston and is predominantly residential, many of its residents making the daily commute to work by bus, car or commuter boat from adjoining Hingham. Route 3-A bisects the town and provides a location for a multitude of large and small businesses. At present, there are four active shopping malls within the town. Cohasset's central village lies around a spacious common with a small pond, and includes specialty shops, the colonial First Parish Meeting House and St. Stephen's Church with its 56 bell carillon that has offered Sunday concerts since 1824. The town has active Community and Arts Centers, three historical museums and the renowned South Shore Music Circus, as well as the Swim Club, two beaches and the recreational facilities of Whitney Woods Reservation and the Wompatuck State Park. Along the shores of Cohasset Harbor are facilities for dining, sailing and a replica of the famous Minot's light. Plans are in motion to extend and improve the waterfront area. Many town residents involve themselves in community activities and the school system is highly rated academically.

(Narrative supplied by community)



# GEOGRAPHY

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## Location

Eastern Massachusetts, bordered by Hingham on the west, Hull on the northwest, the Atlantic Ocean on the north, and Scituate on the south and east. Cohasset is about 20 miles southeast of Boston, 23 miles northeast of Brockton, 27 miles north of Plymouth, and 232 miles from New York City.

**Total Area:** 31.47 sq. miles

**Land Area:** 9.89 sq. miles

**Population:** 7,075

**Density:** 715 per sq. mile

## Climate

(National Climatic Data Center)

(Hingham Station)

Normal temperature in January.....27.4°F

Normal temperature in July.....71.5°F

Normal annual precipitation.....47.7"

## U.S.G.S. Topographical Plates

Cohasset, Nantasket

## Regional Planning Agency

Metropolitan Area Planning Council

## Metropolitan Statistical Area

(1993 Definition)

Boston



# GOVERNMENT

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## Municipal Offices

Main Number: (781) 383-9900

[Telephone Numbers for Public Information](#)

## Form of Government

Board of Selectmen  
Executive Secretary  
Open Town Meeting

## Year Incorporated

As a town: 1770

## Registered Voters (Secretary of State 1994)

	Number	%	
Total Registered	4,787		
Democrats	1,045	21.8	%
Republicans	1,053	22.0	%
Other parties	4	0.1	%
Unenrolled Voters	2,685	56.1	%

## Legislators

[Senators and Representatives by City and Town](#)



# DEMOGRAPHICS

**Table DP-1. Profile of General Demographic Characteristics: 2000**

Geographic Area: Cohasset town, Norfolk County, Massachusetts

[For information on confidentiality protection, nonsampling error, and definitions, see text]

Subject	Number	Percent	Subject	Number	Percent
Total population.....	7,261	100.0	<b>HISPANIC OR LATINO AND RACE</b>		
<b>SEX AND AGE</b>			Total population.....	7,261	100.0
Male.....	3,500	48.2	Hispanic or Latino (of any race).....	50	0.7
Female.....	3,761	51.8	Mexican.....	7	0.1
Under 5 years.....	532	7.3	Puerto Rican.....	19	0.3
5 to 9 years.....	627	8.6	Cuban.....	8	0.1
10 to 14 years.....	572	7.9	Other Hispanic or Latino.....	16	0.2
15 to 19 years.....	387	5.3	Not Hispanic or Latino.....	7,211	99.3
20 to 24 years.....	159	2.2	White alone.....	7,099	97.8
25 to 34 years.....	630	8.7	<b>RELATIONSHIP</b>		
35 to 44 years.....	1,305	18.0	Total population.....	7,261	100.0
45 to 54 years.....	1,181	16.3	In households.....	7,192	99.0
55 to 59 years.....	457	6.3	Householder.....	2,673	36.8
60 to 64 years.....	297	4.1	Spouse.....	1,733	23.9
65 to 74 years.....	608	8.4	Child.....	2,429	33.5
75 to 84 years.....	372	5.1	Own child under 18 years.....	1,957	27.0
85 years and over.....	134	1.8	Other relatives.....	187	2.6
Median age (years).....	40.9	(X)	Under 18 years.....	60	0.8
18 years and over.....	5,296	72.1	Nonrelatives.....	170	2.3
Male.....	2,442	33.6	Unmarried partner.....	63	0.9
Female.....	2,794	38.5	In group quarters.....	69	1.0
21 years and over.....	5,115	70.4	Institutionalized population.....	69	1.0
62 years and over.....	1,279	17.6	Noninstitutionalized population.....	-	-
65 years and over.....	1,114	15.3	<b>HOUSEHOLD BY TYPE</b>		
Male.....	466	6.3	Total households.....	2,673	100.0
Female.....	658	9.1	Family households (families).....	2,014	75.3
<b>RACE</b>			With own children under 18 years.....	973	36.4
One race.....	7,219	99.4	Married-couple family.....	1,733	64.8
White.....	7,130	98.2	With own children under 18 years.....	866	32.4
Black or African American.....	13	0.2	Female householder, no husband present.....	210	7.9
American Indian and Alaska Native.....	5	0.1	With own children under 18 years.....	83	3.1
Asian.....	55	0.8	Nonfamily households.....	659	24.7
Asian Indian.....	4	0.1	Householder living alone.....	585	21.9
Chinese.....	14	0.2	Householder 65 years and over.....	277	10.4
Filipino.....	8	0.1	Households with individuals under 18 years.....	1,009	37.7
Japanese.....	5	0.1	Households with individuals 65 years and over.....	761	28.5
Korean.....	18	0.2	Average household size.....	2.69	(X)
Vietnamese.....	1	-	Average family size.....	3.16	(X)
Other Asian <sup>1</sup> .....	5	0.1	<b>HOUSING OCCUPANCY</b>		
Native Hawaiian and Other Pacific Islander.....	2	-	Total housing units.....	2,805	100.0
Native Hawaiian.....	1	-	Occupied housing units.....	2,673	95.3
Guamanian or Chamorro.....	-	-	Vacant housing units.....	132	4.7
Samoa.....	-	-	For seasonal, recreational, or		
Other Pacific Islander <sup>2</sup> .....	1	-	occasional use.....	53	1.9
Some other race.....	14	0.2	Homeowner vacancy rate (percent).....	0.6	(X)
Two or more races.....	42	0.6	Rental vacancy rate (percent).....	4.0	(X)
<i>Race alone or in combination with one</i>			<b>HOUSING TENURE</b>		
<i>or more other races: <sup>3</sup></i>			Occupied housing units.....	2,673	100.0
White.....	7,170	98.7	Owner-occupied housing units.....	2,284	85.4
Black or African American.....	15	0.2	Renter-occupied housing units.....	389	14.6
American Indian and Alaska Native.....	22	0.3	Average household size of owner-occupied units.....	2.85	(X)
Asian.....	73	1.0	Average household size of renter-occupied units.....	1.73	(X)
Native Hawaiian and Other Pacific Islander.....	7	0.1			
Some other race.....	16	0.2			

- Represents zero or rounds to zero. (X) Not applicable.

<sup>1</sup> Other Asian alone, or two or more Asian categories.

<sup>2</sup> Other Pacific Islander alone, or two or more Native Hawaiian and Other Pacific Islander categories.

<sup>3</sup> In combination with one or more of the other races listed. The six numbers may add to more than the total population and the six percentages may add to more than 100 percent because individuals may report more than one race.

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Census 2000.



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# HOUSING CHARACTERISTICS

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**Home Sales** (Banker & Tradesman) -

[Town Stats - Free market Statistics](#)

**Subsidized Housing Units** (DHCD 1998)

[DHCD Subsidized Housing Inventory](#)

Subsidized Housing Units: The number of housing units which count toward the municipality's 10% goal for low- and moderate-income housing. It includes both subsidized affordable units and market rate units in certain eligible subsidized developments.

**Public Housing Units** (DHCD 1999)

Conventional State: 76

Conventional Federal: 0

**Rental Assistance**(DHCD 1999)

State (MRVP: 0

Federal (Section 8): 31



# TRANSPORTATION

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## TRANSPORTATION AND ACCESS

Cohasset is situated in the Greater Boston Area, which has excellent rail, air, and highway facilities. State Route 128 and Interstate Route 495 divide the region into inner and outer zones, which are connected by numerous "spokes" providing direct access to the airport, port, and intermodal facilities of Boston.

### Major Highways

Principal highways are State Routes 3A and 228.

### Rail

Commuter rail service in Cohasset is currently under consideration. MBTA subway service is available on the Red Line from Braintree, Quincy Adams Station, and Quincy Center Station. Travel time from Quincy Adams to Park Street: 22 min.; 2,227 MBTA parking spaces available.

### Bus

Cohasset is a member of the Massachusetts Bay Transportation Authority (MBTA), which provides THE RIDE, a paratransit service for the elderly and disabled. The Plymouth and Brockton Street Railway Company provides commuter service to Boston.

### Other

Boston Harbor Commuter Services and Mass. Bay Lines offer commuter boat service to Boston from Hingham. The Marshfield Airport, a General Aviation (GA) facility, is easily accessible. It has a 2,999'x75' asphalt runway. Instrument approaches available: Non-precision.



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# CULTURE AND RECREATION

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## LIBRARIES

[Board of Library Commissioners On-line Library Catalog](#)

## MUSEUMS

(American Association of Museums)

Caleb Lothrop House

14 Summer Street

(781) 383-6930

Captain John Wilson Historic House

2 Elm Street

(781) 383-6930

Maritime Museum

4 Elm Street

(781) 383-6930

## RECREATION

[Telephone Numbers for Public Information](#)

**Recreational Facilities** (Recreational sites and activities)

[Department of Environmental Management Recreation Section](#)



# MISCELLANEOUS

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## HEALTH FACILITIES

(Dept. of Public Health 1992)

### Hospitals

None

### Long Term Care

Cohasset Knoll Skld. Nursing & Rehab.

### Hospices

None

### Rest Homes

None

### UTILITIES

[Telephone Numbers for Public Utilities](#)



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# ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

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The Department of Housing and Community Development would like to thank the many government agencies noted as having provided information for the community profiles. In addition to these agencies, the Regional Transit Authorities assisted with the transportation component of the profiles. We gratefully acknowledge the assistance of many city and town officials, which enabled us to include information obtainable only at the local level. DHCD would also like to thank the following individuals for providing special help: Leslie A. Kirwan, Deputy Commissioner, Division of Local Services, Department of Revenue; Richard Shibley, Deputy Secretary of State; Bob Beattie of the Department of Public Health; Charles W. Clifford from the Martha's Vineyard Commission; Dennis Coffey of the Executive Office of Transportation and Construction; Donna Fletcher and Christian Jacqz of the Executive Office of Environmental Affairs; James Griffin from the MBTA; Karen Loh from Banker & Tradesman; Todd Maio from the Department of Welfare; Geoffrey Morton from the Election Division of the Secretary of State's Office; Stephen R. Muench of the Massachusetts Aeronautics Commission; Rol Murrow of the Aircraft Owners and Pilots Association; Mary Ann Neary and Emmanuelle Fletcher, reference librarians at the State House Library; Jeff Nellhaus from the Department of Education; and George Sanborn, reference librarian at the State Transportation Library.

NOTE: The COMMUNITY PROFILE draws information from a diversity of sources. The main source of information is listed under each section. In some instances comments submitted by the municipality were incorporated to correct and/or enhance the information obtained from the main source. However, no changes were made to those data bases which must be consistent throughout the state. DHCD has made efforts to ensure the accuracy of all data in the COMMUNITY PROFILES, but cannot take responsibility for any consequences arising from the use of the information contained in this document.